Low Temperature Blanket

By KUNIEDA SAIKA

Volume 2
Chapter 5

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低温ブランケット②
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国枝彩香
LOW TEMPERATURE BLANKET ②
KUNIEDA SAIKA

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Is Daisuke's unfathomable uncle Houichi finally making a move?!

Of all the people Daisuke could fall in love with, it just had to be that useless, unfathomable uncle of his! Even though he tried dating a girl, in the end he realized that the one he truly wants to be with has always been Houichi.

With love on his mind, Daisuke painstakingly arranges to live with Houichi again. However, his romantic ideals of life in their love nest are dashed when his former girlfriend Kaori enters the stage! Will Daisuke's ardent efforts in love be succesful?!

国枝彩香

SAIKA KUNIEDA

Residence: Saitama prefecture
Star sign: Gemini
Blood type: AB
The manga that I drew without much planning is now complete.
Ah– I'm so glad!
I hope it can bring a little happiness to all my readers!

CONTENTS

003

Low Temperature Blanket Chapter 5

BE x BOY MAGAZINE OCTOBER 2011 ISSUE

045

Low Temperature Blanket Chapter 6

BE x BOY MAGAZINE FEBRUARY 2012 ISSUE

085

Low Temperature Blanket Chapter 7

BE x BOY MAGAZINE AUGUST 2012 ISSUE

125

Low Temperature Blanket Chapter 8

BE x BOY MAGAZINE DECEMBER 2012 ISSUE

172

Houichi's Memory

Libre Premium NOVEMBER 2012 ISSUE

179

Catch Cold

BE . BOY GOLD APRIL 2013 ISSUE "COLD" EXTRA

185

Afterword

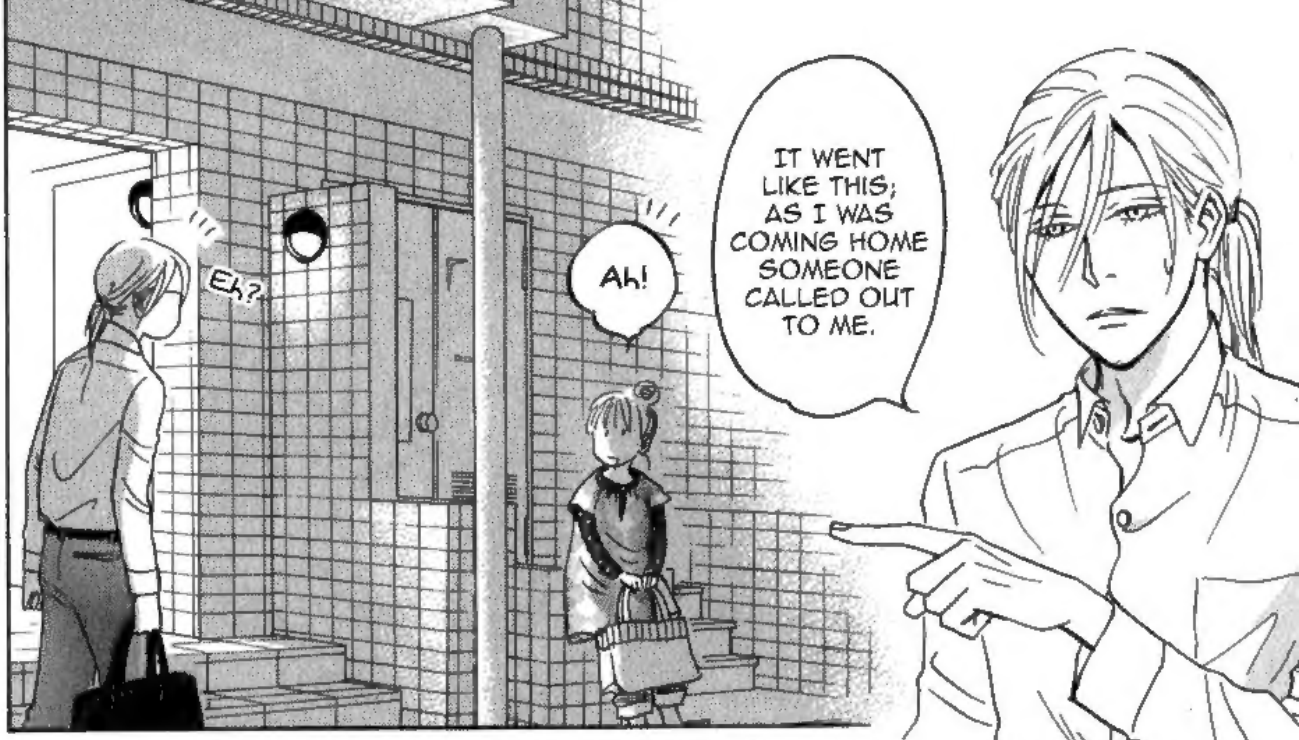
NEW ADDITION TO THIS VOLUME

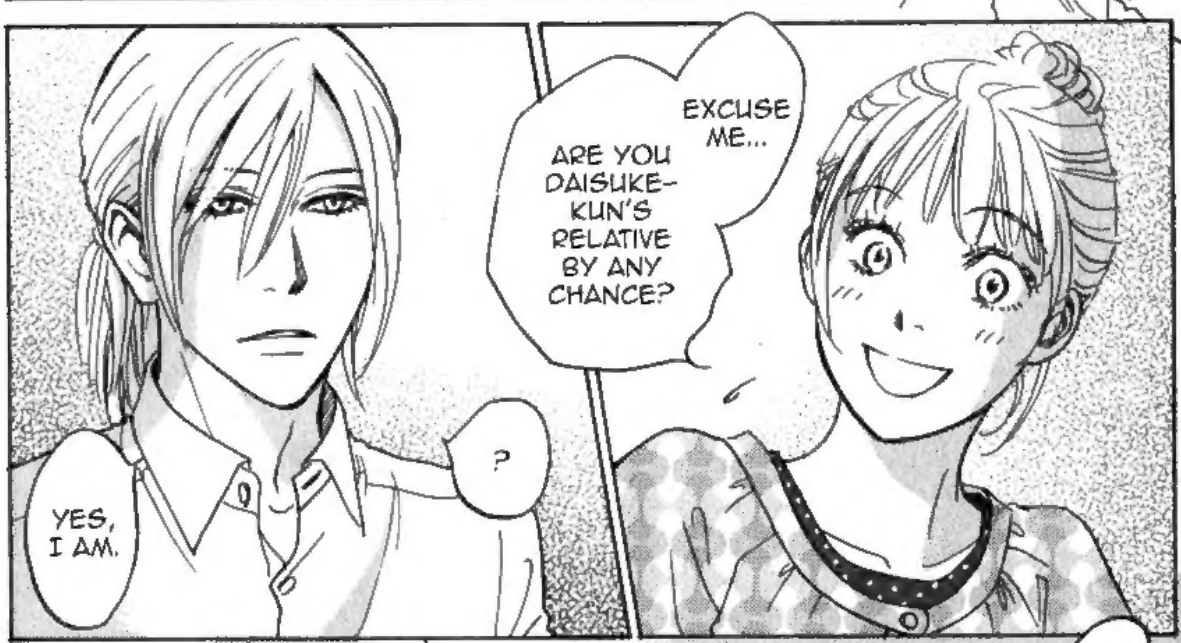
低温ブランケット
LOW TEMPERATURE BLANKET
第5話
CHAPTER 5

WHAT ON EARTH ...
...IS GOING ON?
YOU'RE FINALLY HERE! WHAT? WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE LIKE A STATUE DAISUKE?
COME ON, SIT DOWN, SIT DOWN!
WHY ARE THESE TWO HERE TOGETHER?!
WANT ME TO MAKE YOU SOME TEA? OR WOULD YOU PREFER COFFEE?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
OH, IT LOOKS LIKE HOUICHI-SAN'S CUP IS EMPTY TOO?
WILL YOU HAVE ANOTHER CUP?
Ah- No...

THUNDER
What is Kaori doing here?!
Hurry up and explain this Houichi!
BLUE
...
he he he ...
ABOUT THAT...
AH-
confused

sip
Um- but she's your guest~
Precisely! So why do you know her? And why did you let her in?!
NOT SO FAST!
I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO YOUNG PEOPLE TO IT THEN.
DASH
CRAB
clack


Eh?
Ah!
IT WENT LIKE THIS; AS I WAS COMING HOME SOMEONE CALLED OUT TO ME.


EXCUSE ME...
ARE YOU DAISUKE-KUN'S RELATIVE BY ANY CHANCE?
?
YES, I AM.

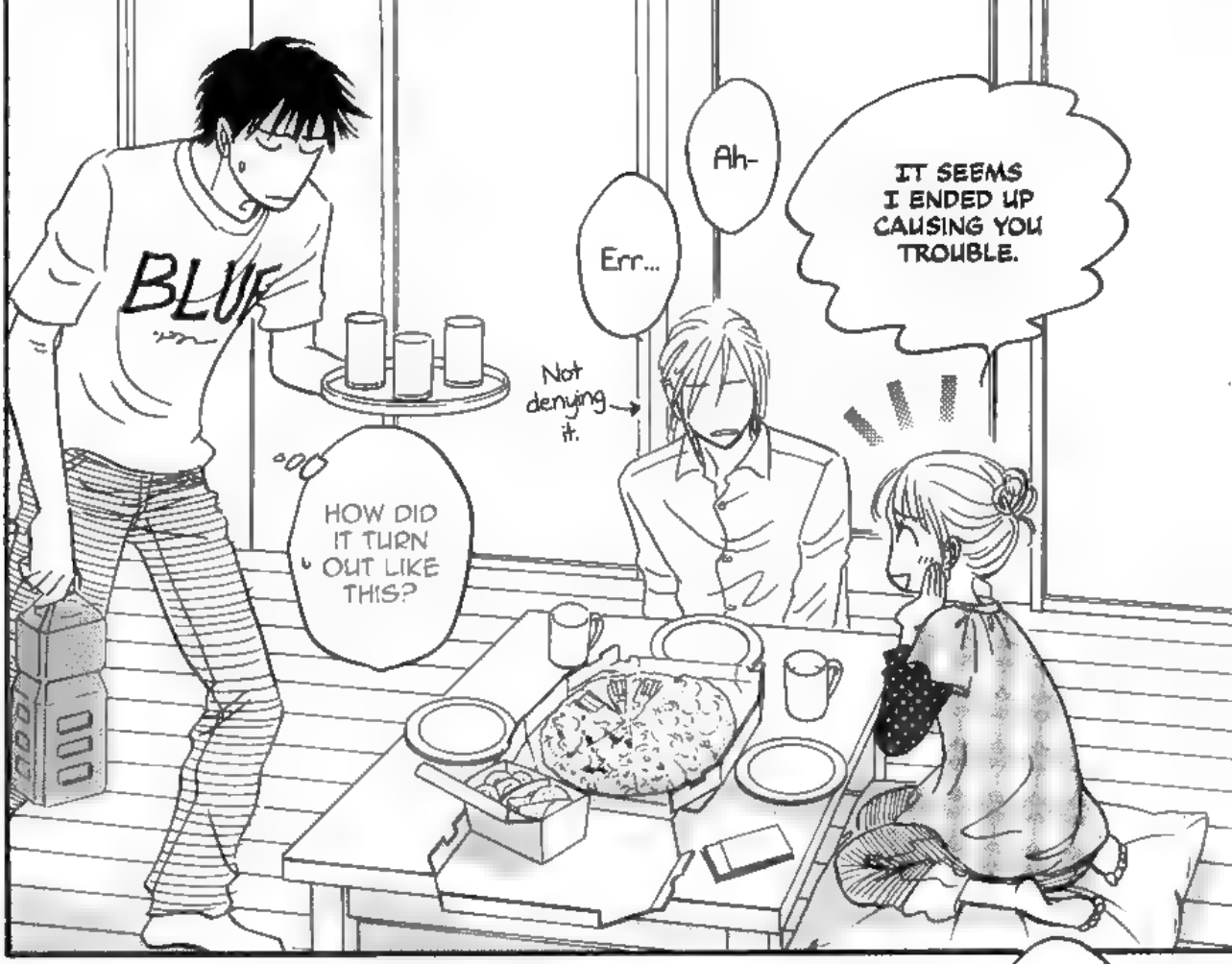
Here's a photo of us to prove it!
I'm Okuta Kaori! I'm Daisuke's friend!
That's great!

And because it's terribly terribly important, I would like to give it to him myself. Would it be alright if I waited here for Daisuke-kun to return?
I have a notebook that I simply must return to Daisuke tonight.
Um- In truth,
... OH... I SEE...
Kaori-chan
...AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
ding! dong!
Ah!
He's here! He's here!
SAH!
Who could it be? WHO'S HERE?!
I ordered pizza just now.
Huh?!

But let's eat together, ok?
WHAT? IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE PAYING FOR IT.
How much will that be?
W- Wait a minute!
4028 yen please.
SORRY FOR THE WAIT. HERE IS YOUR PIZZA AND FRIES.
Thank you so much!
H- hey! Kaori! Who gave you permission to order food?
THAT HURTS! LET ME GO! JUST LET ME PAY!
SORRY, PLEASE WAIT WHILE I GO GET MY WALLET.
er...
rattled
clustered
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!
I always knew inviting you over would be a disaster!
You're so rude!
HOUICHI! HELP ME RESTRAIN THIS LITTLE PEST.
WHO'S A PEST?! YOU DARE CALL ME PEST?!

Ok
I'LL PAY.
offer
Ok!
Let me get your change.

Sorry about that Houichi-san. ♡

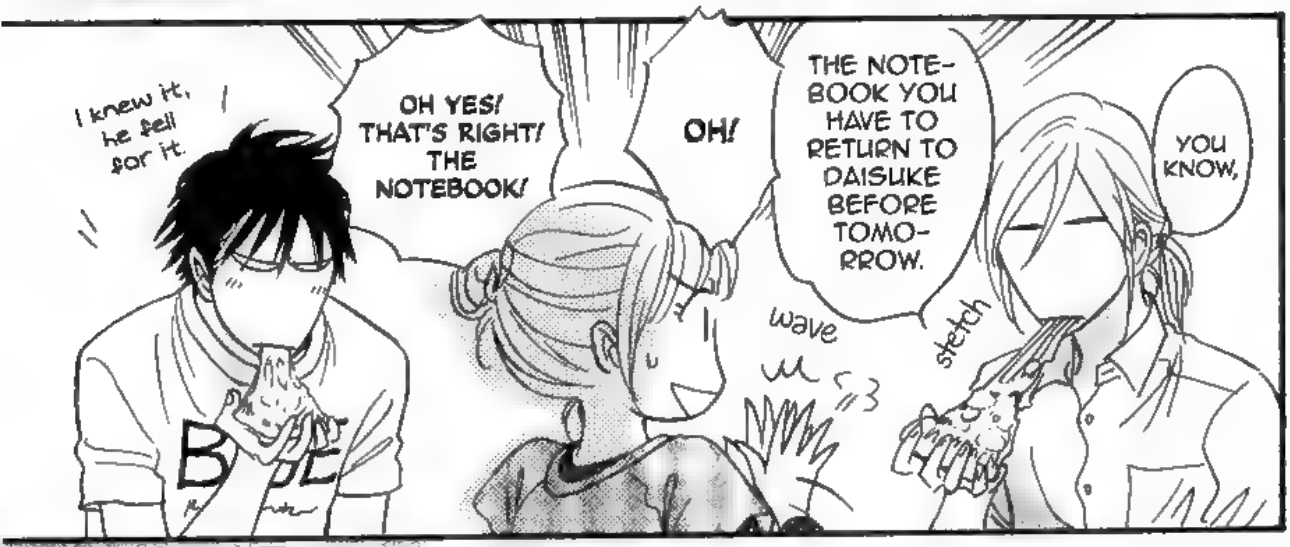

BLUE
HOW DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
Not denying it.
Err...
Ah-
IT SEEMS I ENDED UP CAUSING YOU TROUBLE.

Y-YOU...
HOW SHOULD I KNOW? WHO?
And whose fault is that?!
SOMEHOW I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE IN A BAD MOOD.
...

UM-

KAORI!
HURRY UP AND EAT AND THEN GO HOME!
HMPH! WHAT'S WITH YOU? YOU'VE BEEN WEARING THAT GRUFF EXPRESSION SINCE YOU GOT HERE.
BLUE
POUT

WHAT?
NOTE-BOOK?
WHAT ABOUT THE NOTE-BOOK?


I knew it, he fell for it.
OH YES! THAT'S RIGHT! THE NOTEBOOK!
OH!
THE NOTE-BOOK YOU HAVE TO RETURN TO DAISUKE BEFORE TOMO-RROW.
YOU KNOW,
wave
stretch

Daisuke you've been so cold lately. You didn't even tell me that you moved house.
I just wanted to see Daisuke, even if only for a little while.
teary
chew chew
caught out
Haa~
I'M SORRY! I TRICKED YOU THERE.
...
You!

OH, ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
I don't remember giving you an address!
How did you even find this place?
Ah!
H-Hang on!
WHAT?
I FOLLOWED YOU!
CANDID

Why do I feel like I'm being watched?
spy
I'VE BEEN SNEAKILY WATCHING YOUR EVERY MOVEMENT THE LAST FEW DAYS.
find flat
It's that room!
hide
AHH~ I THINK I HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME A REAL DETECTIVE!
BLUF

Eh?
F-Familiar? Have we?
YOU!

I EVEN GOT TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH HOUICHI-SAN!
BUT IT SURE WAS THE RIGHT CHOICE TO COME HERE TODAY!
He he

whoosh~
THUD
Th-That...
Ah-
TUT-TUT! HOW RUDE! EVEN IF I WERE TO SPEAK TO YOU CALMLY, YOU'D JUST AVOID ME WOULDN'T YOU?
DON'T THINK YOU CAN ACT CUTE AND I'LL FORGIVE YOU JUST LIKE THAT, YOU STALKER!

THERE'S NOTHING TO CARRY ON!
I'll clean up.
EX-CUSE ME.
PLEASE CARRY ON.
BLUE

YOU'RE JUST MAKING IT WORSE!
L-LET ME DO IT!
slowly slowly
soaked

Oh oh!
roll roll...

Um-but...
...
ENOUGH! HURRY UP NOW.

I HAVE TO WASH IT STRAIGHT AWAY!
AREN'T THOSE THE EXPENSIVE TROUSERS YOU BOUGHT JUST A FEW DAYS AGO?
Huh?
YOU HURRY UP AND CHANGE OUT OF YOUR WET TROUSERS.

...
FOCUSED...
Ok! Done!
RUB RUB
UE
GOT IT?
BLUE
AND REMEMBER TO TAKE IT TO THE DRY CLEANERS LATER.
DON'T FORGET, OK?
AH-
OK.
OI! HOUICHI! TAKE IT TO THE OTHER ROOM TO DRY.
...What?

CRAP!
GLARE

MAY I COME OVER AGAIN SOME-TIME?
Oh- um...
...Of course.
YAY! CAN'T WAIT! ♡
being cute

WE'RE GOING!!
COME HERE KAORI!
DRAG AWAY
HOW ABOUT NEXT WEDNES-DAY?

THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME HOUICHI-SAN!
WELL, I SURE HAD A LOT OF FUN TODAY.
TAP
TAP

um-
Kaori...
I...
I KNOW WHO IT IS YOU LIKE.
...
What?!
You-
What are you talking about?
He's a man! Not to mention my uncle!
And he's a gene-ration older than me!
No way! No way!
BLUE
BLUE

Who else could we have been talking about?

Did I just dig my own grave?

Did–

You tricked me into admitting it!

How treache-rous! Hey!

speech-less

Bh!

inner voice

Grr! I'm so mad!

I

NEVER SAID IT WAS HOUICHI-SAN.

Agh!

WHEN WE WERE TOGETHER YOU WERE ALWAYS SO CALM AND STEADY.

I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE SO STUPID AND EASY TO SEE THROUGH, JUST LIKE A CHILD!

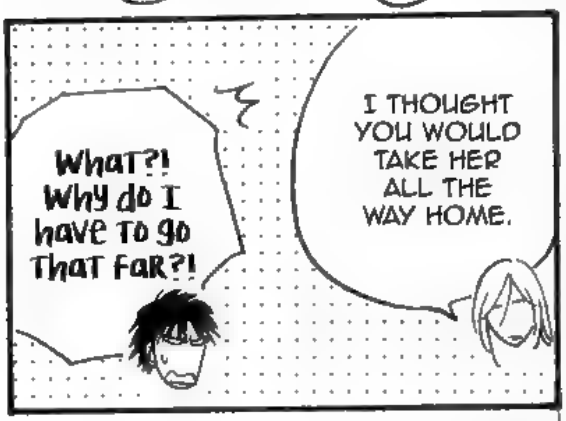
That's my line

What?

KAORI!
HEY! JUST A MINUTE!
WHAT?
"again"?
I'LL COME AND HANG OUT WITH YOU AGAIN SOMETIME!
BYEBYE DAISUKE!
EH-
W-WAS I?
Was that genuine praise or sarcasm?
OH, WE'RE ALREADY AT THE STATION.
BLUE
ANXIOUS...
WHAT EXACTLY...
...IS SHE UP TO?
BLUE

Ah- yeah,
I WENT WITH HER, AS FAR AS THE STATION.
THE STATION?

DID YOU WALK HER HOME?
OH? THAT WAS FAST.


I THOUGHT YOU WOULD TAKE HER ALL THE WAY HOME.
What?! Why do I have to go that far?!

THEN, DAI-SUKE,
CLICK

BECAUSE IT'S DANGEROUS FOR A GIRL TO BE OUT LATE AT NIGHT.
So what?!
Wasn't she the one who decided to come here?!
I don't have any obligation to walk her home!
Besides, her home is only 3 minutes walk from the nearest station!

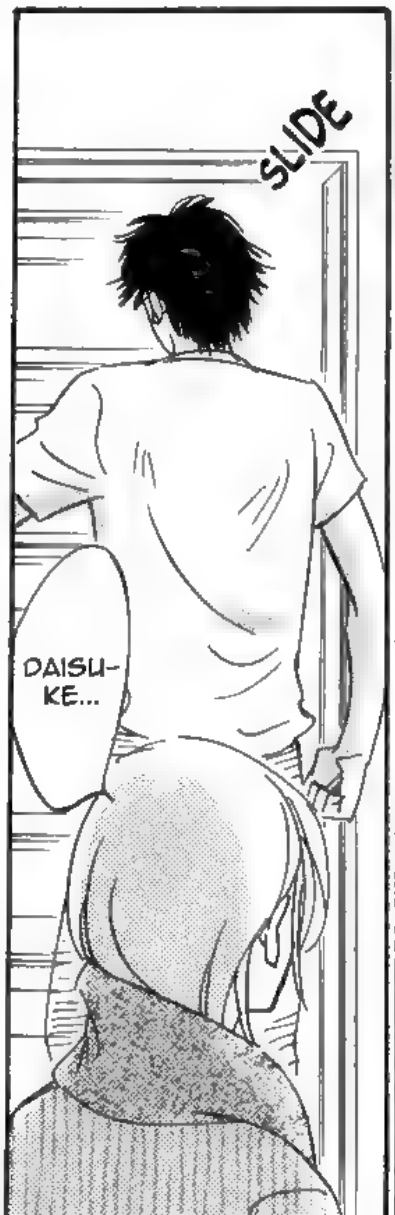
YOU'LL GET BACK TOGETHER WITH HER, RIGHT?

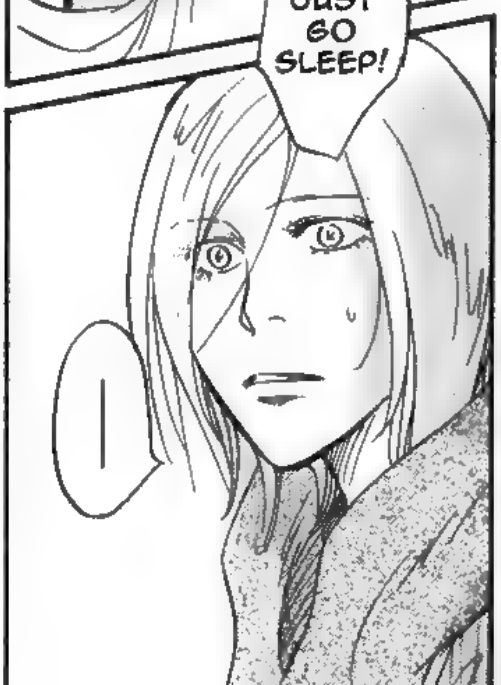
WH-WHAT FOR?!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU WE'VE ALREADY BROKEN UP FOR GOOD?!
BUT, IT SEEMS SHE STILL LIKES YOU.
WHAT?! DID SHE SAY THAT?
NO.

I
BUT EVEN THOUGH SHE DIDN'T SAY IT,
IT WAS OBVIOUS WITH A SINGLE GLANCE.
HOUICHI, ONLY YOU COULD SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
YOU SAY "IT WAS OBVIOUS WITH A SINGLE GLANCE"?
YOU WHO DON'T GIVE A SINGLE THOUGHT TO OTHERS' FEELINGS, WHO LET OTHERS SUFFER UNREQUITED LOVE FOR YOU, WHO ALWAYS ACT AS IF THESE THINGS JUST DON'T CONCERN YOU?
...
"OBVIOUS WITH A SINGLE GLANCE"?
YOUR GLANCE?
CLENCH

DAI-SUKE?
~~~~~

RUFFLE
AGH! FORGET IT!

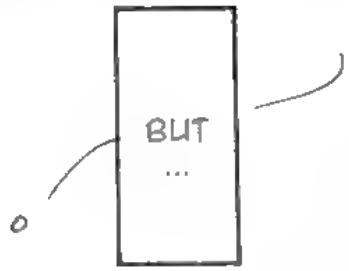

SLIDE
DAISU-KE...


JUST GO SLEEP!
...

SLAM!
~~~~~

THEY'RE BOTH OUT OF LINE!
I'M SO ANGRY!
GRRR- DAMN IT ALL!

THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT SHE'LL DO.
Today's Resolution (but no resolve)
I REALLY SHOULD WARN KAORI OFF!


BUT ...

err,
"MAY I COME OVER AGAIN SOME-TIME?"
Come to think of it,

Ooh! Sounds intri-guing!
He he he, I'm not telling! ♡
What's this? Did you guys make up?
It's not like that!
HOW DID IT GET TO THIS?
Sorry! I'm running late. ♡
Hey!
DASH
KAORI!
Oh!
SWEEP
SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT AND MAKE ME MAD. I'D BETTER NOT SEE HIM AT ALL.
BUT...
DID YOU GUYS GET BACK TOGE-THER?
AND WHEN I GO HOME HOUICHI WILL ONLY-
...
EVEN THEN, I CAN'T HELP FEELING STRESSED.
haa

Sign: Pharmaceuticals

THAT'S ... ...
THAT...
IT'S OBVIOUS THE REASON HE'S SO GLOOMY IS BECAUSE OF HIS ONE-SIDED LOVE FOR YOU.
HA HA HA!
POOR DAISUKE-KUN.
WOMEN JUST LOVE CHATTING, THAT'S HOW THEY ARE.
ha ha
You could say she's cute and energetic, and talks too much!
Mm...
slide~
By the way your hair's a mess.
BUT DAISUKE HAS A GIRLFRIEND!
slump
I HAD NO IDEA. WHAT'S SHE LIKE?
REALLY?

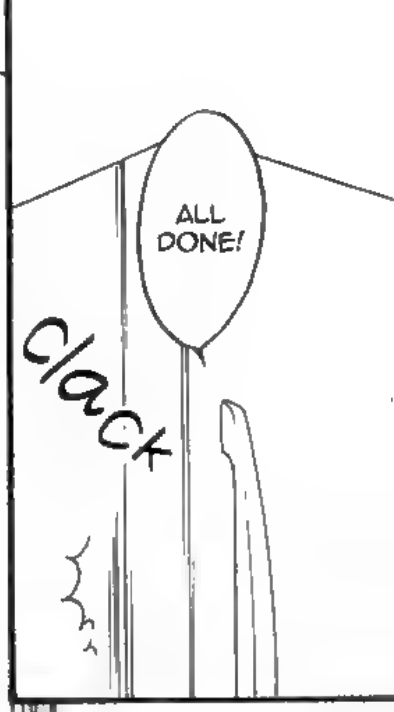
Pfft!
He he he!
AND, WHEN HE SAW HER, IT WAS LIKE HE WAS TRYING TO HIDE ME AWAY!
down-cast
JEA-LOUS?
shock
AH-FORGIVE ME.
What are you laughing at?
He he
HM?
AREN'T YOU?
I'M JUST SURPRISED THAT YOU WOULD ACTUALLY FEEL JEALOUS OVER SOMEONE.

I AM NOT JEALOUS!
Oh!
I
...
NO!
OH DEAR, ARE YOU ANGRY?
fuu~

Oh!
Wel-come home! ♡
YOU'RE SO EARLY TODAY DAISUKE.
OH, I BROUGHT THESE FOR YOU GUYS!
...
pat pat
IT'S...
IT'S JUST THAT LAST TIME I ENDED UP BEING TREATED TO PIZZA.
SO TONIGHT YOUR DINNER IS ON ME!
Kaori ...
THERES SUSHI AND CAKE AND RED WINE.

Ah!
Today's my birthday!
JUST WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?!
"AH!" HE SAYS. I KNEW YOU WOULD FORGET!
YOU'RE SO INCONSI-DERATE!
...
We have to hurry and put it in the fridge! Come on!
I put in a fair few ice packs to keep it cold but I'm still anxious.
Ok ok, don't worry, let's go inside.
...

IT WOULD BE GREAT IF WE COULD ALL EAT TOGETHER.
IS HOUICHI-SAN COMING HOME LATE TONIGHT?
KAORI...


ALL DONE!
clack

WOW! SO MANY DISHES.
YOU'RE HOPE-LESS.
scratch
IT'S NOT THAT...
fuu~

ah!
THOSE ARE FROM THIS MOR-NING.
I WAS GONNA WASH THEM WHEN I GOT BACK.
KAORI!
sttttt

JUST... WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
You don't like it?

...
HM? DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, EASY AS PIE.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WASH THOSE!
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE!
Fuun
EVEN IF YOU DO THIS, THERE'S STILL NO WAY I COULD-
BUT,
I KNOW!
BAM!
I DECIDED TO BREAK UP ALL ON MY OWN.
AND I EVEN FORGOT YOUR BIRTHDAY.
I DIDN'T DO RIGHT BY YOU.
KAORI...
SHAAA

DON'T CRY, I'M BEGGING YOU.
huff~
I'M NOT CRYING!
AND WHAT ARE YOU HUFFING ABOUT ANYWAY?
turn

EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M DOING WHAT I'M DOING!
AND I WASN'T PLANNING TO USE THIS AS A CHANCE TO GET BACK TOGETHER WITH YOU!
...BUT, NEITHER HAVE I BEEN FORTHCOMING IN WISHING YOU AND THAT PERSON WELL!
TO BE FRANK, IF YOU WANTED TO BREAK UP SO BADLY YOU SHOULD'VE DONE SOME THINGS TO MAKE ME HATE YOU!
LIKE... LIKE... LIKE...
LIKE BEEN VIOLENT OR SOME-THING!
OR SAID YOU HAVE A MOTHER COMPLEX AND YOU NEED YOUR MUM TO BE THERE EVEN ON COMING-OF-AGE DAY AND YOUR HONEYMOON!
Gimme a break.
OR TURN INTO A 100KS FATTY OR BECOME BALD! YOU COULD DO A LOT OF THINGS!
KAORI ...
WHAT?! YOU COULD COME UP WITH SOME IDEAS TOO YA KNOW!
I UNDER-STAND, IT'S OK.

THERE MUST BE A LOT OF GUYS WHO ARE BETTER THAN ME?

IF YOU JUST LOOK FOR ONE,

YOU'LL BE SURE TO MEET SOME-ONE.

...NO! NO-ONE ELSE WILL DO.

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I LIKE!

wiping tears

ok done!

DAISUKE YOU IDIOT!
BEING ALL SWEET AND KIND AT A TIME LIKE THIS! YOU'RE SO MEAN!
Waa~
KAORI!
GRAB
SEEING KAORI LIKE THIS, SO CUTE AND VULNE-RABLE, I CAN'T HELP LOVING HER.
Waa~
...
clack
BUT THE LOVE I FEEL FOR KAORI AND HOUICHI ARE NOT THE SAME...
WE WOULD NEVER HAVE DATED IN THE FIRST PLACE IF I DIDN'T LIKE HER.

Ah
...
um-

WAIT!
W–
SLAM
I'LL LEAVE YOU GUYS TO IT.
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
YOU GO AND TAKE YOUR TIME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!
"Take my time"?!
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA. THAT WAS NOTHING.
HEY!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HOU-ICHI!

PULL
LET GO!
UM-
...
shock
HOU-ICHI...
IS ANGRY?
...
HUH?

HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
I TOLD YOU IT WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING!
HOUICHI!
whoosh

HOUICHI!

STOP!
DAM-MIT!
LISTEN TO ME!
SWOOSH
BRRRM~

OH? RIGHT ON TIME.
BUT AIKAWA-KUN, IT SEEMS YOU FORGOT SOMETHING IMPORTANT...
!

SLAM!
KURO-SAWA-SAN!
GIMME A LIFT!
OH?
HOUICHI!
HURRY!

VROOOM
THIS...
...CAN'T BE HAPPEN-ING?